

**OPEN SOURCE SOLUTIONS**  
***A Non-Profit Educational Corporation***  
**1914 Autumn Chase Court**  
**Falls Church, Virginia 22043**

Voice/Message: (703) 536-1775 | Facsimile (703) 536-1776  
Electronic Mail: [steeler@well.sf.ca.us](mailto:steeler@well.sf.ca.us)

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Dear Colleague,

Enclosed is early notification of our plans for the second international symposium on "National Security & National Competitiveness: Open Source Solutions". Last year we had 629 participants, each of whom was able to take advantage of critical insights from such authorities as the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, the Chief of Staff of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Director of Defense Information, and leading technical experts such as Jay Keyworth, Bob Kahn, John Gage, and Stephen Andriole.

Although many have commented that it would be hard to out-do our performance last year, our goal this year is to do exactly that. In addition to a most serious effort to attract the Vice-President of the United States to this forum, we have added three panels of Chief Executive Officers and Assistant Secretaries to provide the first-ever public discussion of open source intelligence requirements from the point of view of the policy and senior private sector leader.

We have also added nine organized interest groups, will have between 25 and 50 carefully chosen displays (which will illustrate solutions, rather than market products), and are extending to all major information associations of the world an invitation to host an information table at no cost to themselves.

Your early registration will not only assure you of a seat, but it will help balance our workload and our cash flow. Last year enormous strain was imposed on us by last minute registrations for seats and display spaces. For this reason I am adopting the traditional mechanism of most conference organizers, and adding a \$50 surcharge for registrations postmarked after 1 July and a \$100 surcharge for registrations postmarked after 1 October. I urge you to register now. For government employees whose fiscal year does not begin until 1 October, I offer two alternatives: I can deliver a ticket in this fiscal year, allowing your contracts staff to use fiscal year 1992 monies, or I will accept your early registration if accompanied by a training form requiring billing in fiscal 1993. I will not be troubled by the standard "contingent on the availability of funds" clause".

Displays will cost \$1250 for a 10' x 10' pipe and drape arrangement, with telephone jack and power provided where requested. Display locations will be selected by vendors based on date of payment. This year I plan to have at least ten displays in the pre-function area itself, and urge interested vendors to register early. Individuals manning displays will not qualify for admission to the symposium itself; separate purchase of a seat is required.

I am at present in a search mode for informative materials to include in Volume I of the Proceedings for 1993; this is the volume that each participant receives upon arrival the first day. If you have short articles pertinent to open source intelligence, and particularly to multi-media sources of information, to information technologies and tools, and to government or private sector requirements and capabilities in this arena, I would like very much to receive a copy and discuss with you the possibility of integrating your materials into my Volume I.

Last year, in recognition of my year-long campaign to bring together the intelligence community, the traditional corporate information community, and the non-traditional information communities comprised of individual information brokers and individual hackers, Microtimes, Northern California's Computer Magazine, was kind enough to count me as one of its "Microtimes 100: Industry Leaders and unsung heroes who make a difference in the computer industry in 1992 and helped create the future". I am indebted to our speakers, and to our participants, for having made the 1992 symposium such a remarkable event.

I have paid careful attention to the suggestions made by participants regarding proposed speakers for 1993, and believe that this year's effort will not only meet but exceed all expectations. I hope that you will join us in 1993, and that you will share copies of this material with as many of your colleagues-- around the world and across organizational boundaries--as possible.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RDS Steele". The letters are stylized and cursive.

Robert David Steele  
President